

CLAIMS:

1. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication from a source language to one or more target languages including the steps of:
 - 5 determining the source language of the electronic communication by identifying a translation identifier or parsing said electronic communication with a language identifier means;
 - determining the target language for the electronic communication by reading a user profile of a user receiving the electronic communication;
 - 10 comparing the target language and source language to determine a required translation;
 - obtaining the required translation; and
 - displaying the translated electronic communication to the user.
2. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication
 - 15 according to claim 1 wherein, the translation identifier is a language identifier such as an HTML tag in an HTML document.
3. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1 wherein, the translation identifier is a translation information segment.
- 20 4. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1, wherein, if there is no translation identifier in said electronic communication, the method comprises the further step of:
 - parsing the communication with a language identifier software to determine the source language of the communication; or
 - 25 obtaining human intervention to identify the source language.
5. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1 wherein the step of determining the target language further includes the step of:

reading a cookie or a file on a receiving machine to obtain the user profile or obtaining a preference language from a single sign-on system, such as Microsoft Passport® or other information repository.

6. A seamless translation system comprising:

5 an originating computer sending an electronic communication;
a receiving computer receiving a translated electronic communication;
a network connecting the originating computer to the receiving computer; and

a translation manager performing the steps of:

10 automatically determining the language of the electronic communication;

automatically determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;

15 obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and

sending the translated communication to the user.

7. A seamless translation system comprising:

an electronic communication originating from a source and in a source language containing a translation identifier;

20 a user profile; and

a translation manager including means for determining the source language and a target language of said electronic communication;

25 wherein the translation manager executes a required translation of said source language to said target language using the translation identifier and the user profile.

8. A seamless translation system comprising:

an originating computer sending an electronic communication;
a receiving computer receiving a translated electronic communication;
a network connecting the originating computer to the receiving

computer;

automatic means for determining the language of the electronic communication;

5 automatic means for determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;

means for obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and

means for sending the translated electronic communication to the user.

10 9. A seamless translation system according to claim 8 further comprising a translation manager, said translation manager including:

said automatic means for determining the language of the electronic communication;

15 said automatic means for determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;

said means for obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and

said means for sending the translated electronic communication to the user.

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